Community Health Worker Networks

(October 14, 2014)

Richmond, VA

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Overview

- Introduction

- Chronic Disease Prevention Strategies

- Clinical-Community Linkages

- Community Health Worker Networks (CHWNs)

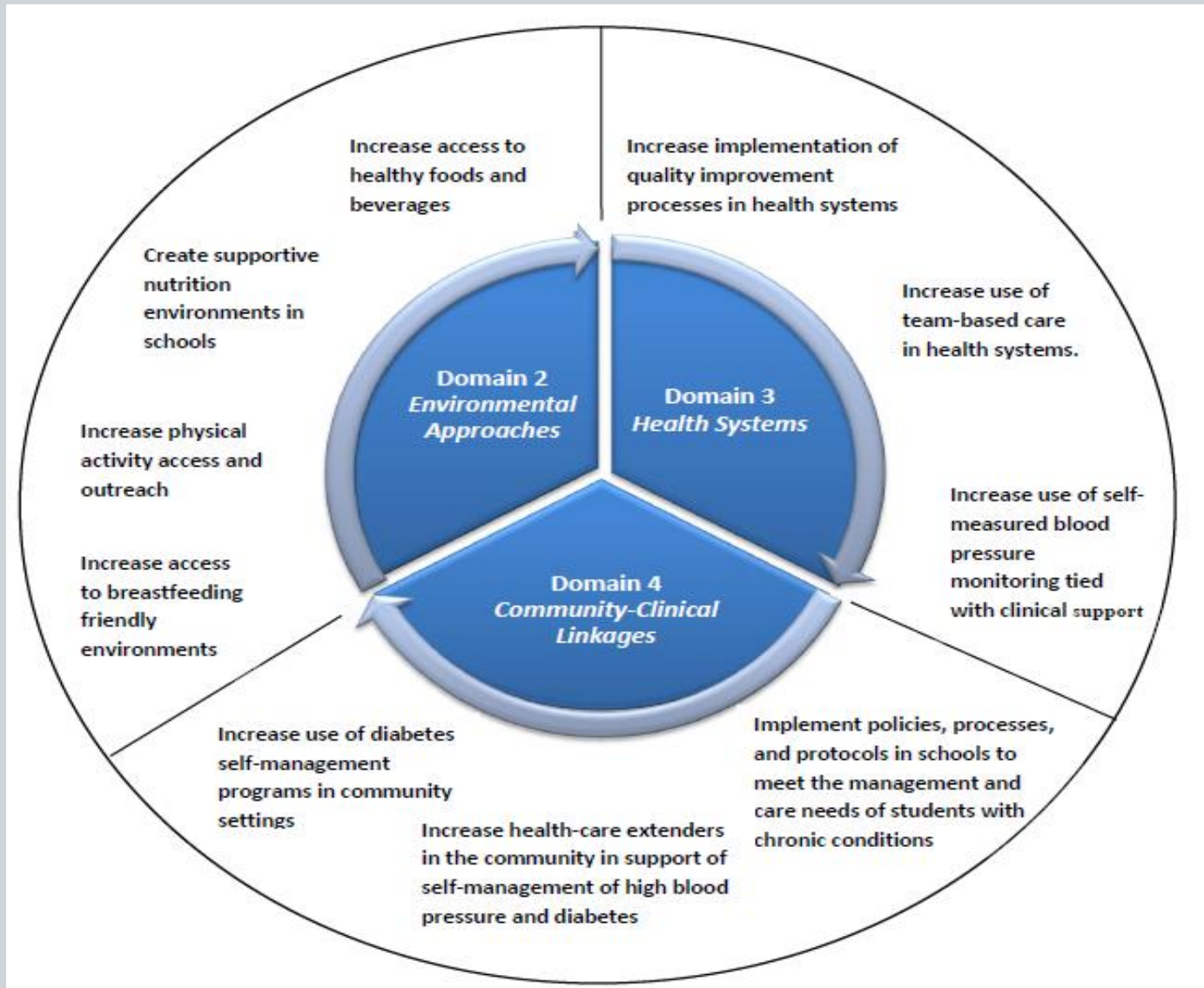- Identified Local Health Districts (LHDs)

- Outcomes

- Conclusion

Building a Healthier Virginia
Overarching Goal

Promote health and prevent and control leading chronic diseases and risk factors through the implementation of cross-cutting approaches
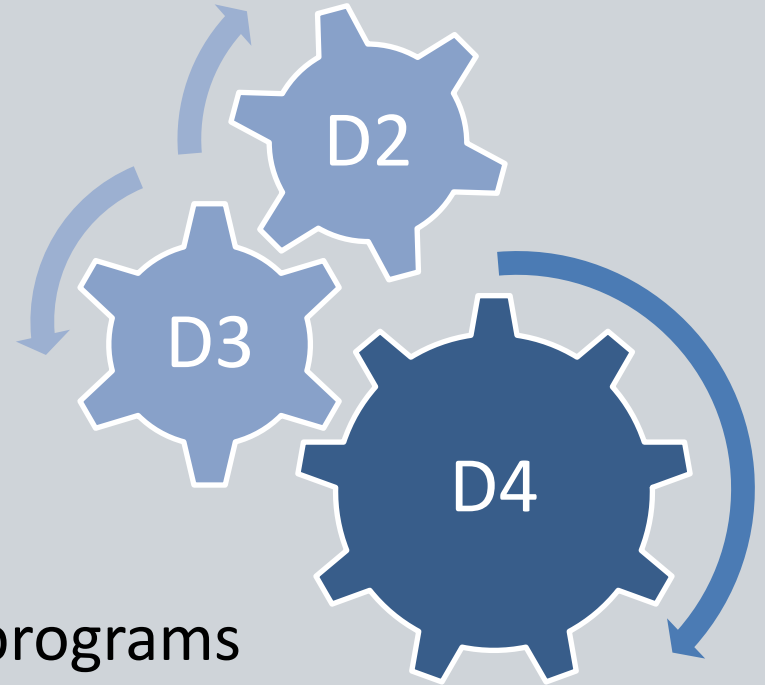
Healthy Virginia

Increase access to healthy foods and beverages

Increase implementation of quality improvement processes in health systems

Create supportive nutrition environments in schools

Increase use of team-based care in health systems.

Increase physical activity access and outreach

Domain 2
Environmental Approaches

Domain 3
Health Systems

Increase access to breastfeeding friendly environments

Increase use of self-measured blood pressure monitoring tied with clinical support

Domain 4
Community-Clinical Linkages

Increase use of diabetes self-management programs in community settings

Implement policies, processes, and protocols in schools to meet the management and care needs of students with chronic conditions

Increase health-care extenders in the community in support of self-management of high blood pressure and diabetes

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Chronic Disease Prevention

- **Synergistic activities**
  - Health Systems
  - Schools
  - Worksites
  - Community Organizations
  - Local health districts
  - Self-management education programs
- **Statewide initiatives**
  - CHW Task force
  - Training, credentialing, and certification
  - Reimbursement mechanisms

D2

D3

D4

Clinical-Community Linkages

Strategies

- Improve the quality and delivery of clinical and other preventive services.

- Improve clinical-community linkages.

Impacts

- Clinical innovations that result in early diagnosis and follow-up care for patients diagnosed with a chronic disease.

- Increased use of self-management programs to prevent and control chronic conditions.

Clinical Community Goals

Implement interventions that strengthen community resources for the prevention, early detection, and better management of chronic diseases.

Community Health Worker (CHW)

- Community health workers are community members that can have a significant impact on extending the health care system into the community (Witmer 1995).

- The use of CHWs in health intervention programs has been linked to improved health care access, client health status, health and screening-related behaviors, and reduced health care costs (Brownstein & Blumethal, 1998).

Community Health Worker Networks (CHWNs)

- The establishment of CHWNs will increase clinical-community linkages between health care systems, health districts, and community resources to prevent and reduce chronic diseases throughout Virginia.
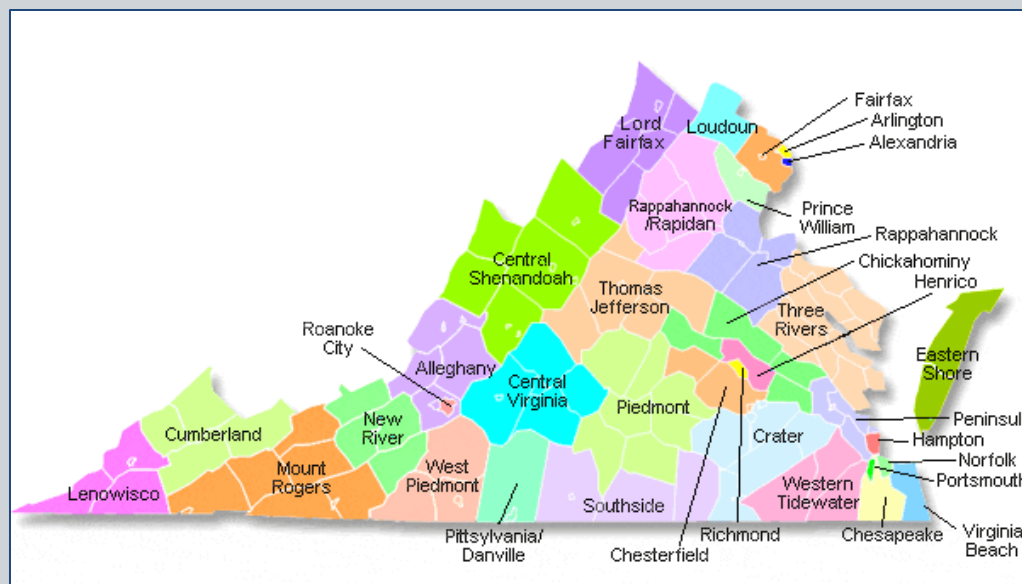
Community Health Worker Networks (CHWNs)

- Funding for 9 districts

- CHW Coordinator

- Volunteer CHWs

- Training and Curriculums

- Referral Systems

- Tracking Tools

Local Health Districts

Selection Criteria

- Resources
- Existing Disparities
- Proximity to funded health systems
- Support from leadership

Local Health Districts

District	Health System	Health Indicator Average Rank*
Southside	Halifax Regional Health System	23.6
New River	Multiple	22.0
Portsmouth	Multiple	22.0
Hampton	*South Eastern Virginia Health System*	19.1
Central Shenandoah	*Augusta Regional Free Clinic Harrisonburg Community Center*	18.4
Virginia Beach	*South Eastern Virginia Health System*	15.5
Henrico	*CrossOver Healthcare Ministry*	14.7
Peninsula	*South Eastern Virginia Health System*	12.4
Prince William	Mason and Partners Clinic (MAP)	11.3

*Sources: (1) VA BRFSS, 2012, percentages are weighted to the population characteristics, adults 18+; (2) VDH Division of Health Statistics, 2012, age-adjusted per 100,000 population; (3) Virginia Health Information, Inc., 2012, age-adjusted per 10,000 population.

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Clinical-Community Outcomes

- Increased participation in self-management and lifestyle change programs

- Established referral systems between CHW Network and community partners

- Robust network of volunteers that are knowledgeable in community resources, self-management skills and partnership building

Conclusion and Next Steps

- Identify or develop a tracking tool
  - Bi-directional feedback
  - CHW activity reports
- Develop and monitor progress of CHWNs
  - Clinical-Community Linkages Coordinator
  - Reporting tools
- Overcome barriers
  - Partner engagement
  - Scope of work
  - Sustainability

Comments and Questions

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